

1 I now own my own home and am a single
2 parent of three children.

3 These are only two stories of what the
4 casino industry has done for my family. It has given
5 us the opportunity to better our lives and for us, in
6 particular, the opportunity to work together.

7 Eleven members of the Roman family work at
8 Bally's Park Place in the Atlantic City Hilton. I
9 have 19 other family members to go.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.

12 Mr. John Dossett.

13 David Harlowe.

14 MR. HARLOWE: Yes. Dear Commission
15 members, my name is David Harlowe, and I'm an employee
16 of the Atlantic City Hilton, and I would like to take
17 this opportunity to tell you how the casino industry
18 has influenced me as a lifetime resident of Atlantic
19 County, New Jersey.

20 In 1980, while attending a local community
21 college, my parents could not afford to send me to a
22 large college and with little likelihood of finding

1 employment locally, I took on a part-time job with a
2 casino to help defray the cost of school. This first
3 step into the casino industry 18 years ago is one of
4 the most important decisions I have made.

5 The casino industry is a firm believer in
6 upward mobility of its people. I have worked for
7 seven different casino companies during this time.
8 Every one of them has offered invaluable training
9 classes that have enabled me to become the person I am
10 today. It has given me the opportunity to work in
11 casinos both in the United States and overseas.

12 This, in turn, has given me exposure to
13 other cultures and lessons to the importance of life
14 on a global perspective.

15 Financially, the industry has enabled me
16 to be independent. I purchased my first home in 1984
17 at the age of 24 by myself, and this had been without
18 working at a higher paying casino pit related
19 position. Most of my time has been spent in the
20 accounting and cashiering areas of the industry.

21 These companies offer some of the best
22 benefits to be found in the South Jersey area. They

1 include paid time off, health, and life insurance,
2 bonus programs, an example, the Employee of the Month
3 Program, the 401(k) retirement plans, and employee
4 stock purchase plans.

5 The standard of living -- excuse me.
6 While using these benefits to my advantage, I have
7 built myself a secure foundation for my future.

8 The standard of living has also improved
9 for everyone living in the area by way of creation of
10 new non-casino jobs because of the many companies
11 moving into the area duBÀto an increased population
12 base. The employers offer better wages and benefits
13 in order to compete for good employees.

14 I have found that these casino companies
15 are very proactive in the surrounding communities,
16 working with various organizations, schools and
17 charity groups. Often casino employees volunteer
18 their time and money supporting these worthwhile
19 projects with the support of their employer. I am
20 positive I would have been a different person if not
21 for the better -- if I had not taken the advantage of
22 the opportunity 18 years ago as a bus greeter in a

1 casino.

2 From this entry level position, I have
3 moved up the corporate ladder one step at a time.
4 With each step my hard work helped me advance to
5 better positions. This has led to my present position
6 as the manager of my own department for the past two
7 and a half years.

8 The casino industry has created a positive
9 atmosphere in my community, enabling me to live
10 amongst friends and family, whereas previously I
11 believed this would not have been possible.

12 Thank you for your time.

13 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.

14 Steve -- and this is handwritten here, so
15 that it's even more difficult to read.

16 MR. KARAI SZ: The last name is Karaisz,
17 Madame Chairman.

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Karaisz.

19 MR. KARAI SZ: Members of the Commission,
20 good afternoon, and thank you for the opportunity to
21 speak here today.

22 I want to tell you a brief story about a